



California Coastal Commission

February 13, 2015

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

CHIEF COUNSEL I, CEA **FULL-TIME, PERMANENT** **LOCATION: SAN FRANCISCO**

The Chief Counsel serves as attorney to the California Coastal Commission (Commission) and the Executive Director, and manages and directs the work of the Legal Division, which is comprised of attorneys, legal analysts, a legal assistant and a legal secretary. The Chief Counsel advises the Commission and Executive Director on all legal issues arising from the Commission's Implementation of the California Coastal Act and California's Coastal Management Program. The Chief Counsel is the principal contact for City Attorneys and County Counsels for the 76 local governments in the coastal zone, to the legal offices of other public agencies, special districts, commercial ports and the University of California; and is the primary liaison with the California Attorney General's Office. The Attorney General's Office handles litigation for the Commission.

Legal issues raised by implementation of California's Coastal Management Program are complex, diverse, intellectually challenging and often on the cutting edge of land use law in the state and nation. Primary areas of law involve state land and water use law (e.g. Coastal Act, Subdivision Map Act, CEQA); federal law affecting coastal and ocean resources; federal and state constitutional law concerning "takings"; enforcement; and state administrative law, including conflict of interest, ethics, rulemaking and state civil service rules. The Chief Counsel travels to each monthly Commission meeting (3 to 5 days) to advise the Commission on legal matters arising during the meeting.

This position is demanding and rewarding. The Coastal Commission plans for and regulates development along the California coast pursuant to the California Coastal Act. The Commission's mission is to protect and enhance the coast and ocean for present and future generations. The agency has broad and strong authority including to protect public access and recreation, sensitive wetlands and coastal habitats, scenic rural and agricultural landscapes, cultural resources, and manage coastal hazards. It is charged with assuring that new development in the coastal zone is supported with adequate public services, including water, wastewater and transportation infrastructure. The Commission is on the front line of responding to sea level rise and other coastal resource impacts due to climate change. The Commission is also a national leader in coastal management and land use agency, and its actions may have implications far beyond the state's coastal zone. The Commission's decisions are often controversial, and the agency relies heavily on its legal division and strong relationships with the Attorney General's office to assure that the Coastal Act is implemented to the fullest extent on behalf of all Californians.

The Chief Counsel position is central to the effectiveness and success of the program. The Commission seeks a candidate with high ethical and professional standards, and a commitment to excellence, productivity, accountability, and dedication to public service and the California coast.

The Commission seeks to fill the position as a Chief Counsel I, CEA. Attorneys currently serving in a CEA appointment that have lateral transfer eligibility as Chief Counsel I, CEA; or attorneys in state service qualified to be a CEA are encouraged to apply. [NOTE – In order to transfer to one of these classifications, the applicant must meet the minimum qualifications.] If you are a current state employee who is interested and qualified for this position, please submit an application, resume and cover letter because the Commission will be administering a Chief Counsel I, CEA examination for this position.

SALARY: Chief Counsel I, CEA \$9,366 - \$10,850/mo.

FILING: In order to apply for this position, complete an application and Supplemental Application for the Chief Counsel I, C.E.A. examination being administered by the California Coastal Commission. The Supplemental Application form is attached to the examination bulletin found at [here](#). Application and Supplemental Application along with a cover letter and resume should be sent to:

Human Resources Office
CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION
45 Fremont Street, Suite 1930
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
(415) 904-5430 / toll free: 1-866-831-2540

Applications for the examination will be accepted until 5:00 PM on Monday, March 16, 2015 (see examination bulletin). No relocation expenses are offered.

Questions about the position may be directed to Charles Lester, Executive Director, or Susan Hansch, Chief Deputy Director at (415) 904-5200. The new Chief Counsel would begin as early as April 2015.

For more information about the California Coastal Commission and what we do and to obtain a State Application Form 678, visit our Internet website at: www.coastal.ca.gov. If you have questions you may e-mail us at HumanResources@coastal.ca.gov or call the above numbers.

The State of California is an equal opportunity employer to all, regardless of age, ancestry, color, disability (mental and physical), exercising the right to family care and medical leave, gender, gender expression, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, medical condition, military or veteran status, national origin, political affiliation, race, religious creed, sex (includes pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding and related medical conditions), and sexual orientation.

California Relay Services for the Hearing Impaired call 711